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EFFICACY OF PEACE MEASURES.

We are often told that our means are insufficient. But what are our means? Not physical, but moral; not force against the body, but power upon the mind; not dungeons and gibbets, not chains and halters, not bayonets and bullets, not fleets and armies; but the pure, simple truth of Christ applied in his own spirit to the custom of war, the diffusion of Christian light, in the spirit of Christian love, concerning its guilt and its evils.

Are such means powerless? Is not all physical force among men a mere instrument of mind, and mind itself subject to the influence of such means? Have not the humblest instruments, wielding God's truth, accomplished the greatest moral revolutions? Take the case of Luther. He stood up against a power which combined the civil tyranny of ancient Rome with a spiritual despotism unknown before. Not content with enrolling nobles, and knights, and esquires as its subjects, it counted emperors among its liegemen, and set its foot on the neck of kings. Against this giant power Luther stood up single-handed; and his efforts, and the fruits they produced, shook that power to its centre, and shrank it to the shadow of its former self.

Look back to the first efforts for the abolition of the slave-trade. Let it never be forgotten, that scarce fifty years have passed since ten men sat down, not in Exeter Hall, for that was not then in being, not cheered by admiring crowds, and backed by numerous coöperators, but in a private room in London, unaided and alone, to plan the overthrow of the slave-trade and slavery. *They* were told that their means were deficient, and their project Utopian; but they persevered, undaunted by the opposition of the interested, and the indifference of the powerful; and most of them lived to see the partial success of their efforts, and one of them has even been spared to witness its complete accomplishment. Had they listened to those who sought to deter them by the smallness of their means, and the difficulty of their task, the African would have been still torn from his country, and the West Indian negro still loaded with chains. Let us hear no more then of objections founded on the inadequacy of our means to the task we have to execute.